

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
 Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. WU, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. LEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. McDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, January 27.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAYNE, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1172. An act to establish grants to provide health services for improved nutrition, increased physical activity, obesity prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 1177. An act to prevent tobacco smuggling, to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 1267. An act to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to provide the District of Columbia with autonomy over its budgets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform; in addition to the Committee on Rules for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned; and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 2000. An act to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years; to the Committee on Government Reform; in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned; and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 21, 2004, at 10 a.m.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

U.S. CONGRESS,
 OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE,
Washington, DC, December 8, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER:

WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED SUBSTANTIVE RULE MAKING, AND ADVANCE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

On November 13, 2001, the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance submitted proposed substantive rules for comment, pursuant to section 4(c)(4) of the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 ("VEOA") (2 U.S.C. 1316a(4)), and section 304(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1384(b)). The proposed substantive rules would implement section 4(c) of the VEOA, which affords to covered employees of the legislative branch the rights and protections of selected provisions of veterans' preference law. The Notice of Proposed Rule Making was printed in the Congressional Record on December 6, 2001 at H9065, et seq., and S12539 et seq.

In response to that Notice, the Board of Directors received comments which addressed the difficulty in promulgating regulations applying substantive veterans' preference rights in the absence of formal civil service merit personnel systems in the legislative branch. In view of the comments, and upon further consideration, the Board has decided to withdraw the notice of proposed rule making of November 13, 2001, printed in the Congressional Record of December 6, 2001.

The Board of Directors has initiated a new process of drafting proposed substantive regulations which would implement section 4(c) of the VEOA. The Board invites the informal input of interested parties in advance of the Board's completion of new draft regulations and publication of a new Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the future. Interested parties are invited to contact the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance, Room LA-200, 110 2nd Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20540; 202-724-9250, TDD 202-426-1912.

We request that this notice be published in the Congressional Record. Any inquiries regarding this notice should be addressed to the Office of Compliance at our address above, or by telephone or TDD.

Sincerely,

SUSAN S. ROBFOGEL,
Chair.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5945. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Ports of Entry for Certain Plants and Plants Products [Docket No. 03-067-1] received December 19, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5946. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Pine Shoot Beetle; Additions to Quarantined Areas [Docket No. 03-120-1] received January 13, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5947. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's

final rule—Golden Nematode; Regulated Areas [Docket No. 03-082-1] received January 13, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5948. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Karnal Bunt; Regulated Areas [Docket No. 03-047-1] received January 13, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5949. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Science & Technology, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Removal of Cottonseed Chemist Licensing Program, Updating of Commodity Laboratory and Office Addresses, and Adoption of Information Symbols [Docket Number ST02-03] (RIN: 0581-AC18) received January 5, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5950. A letter from the Administrator, Agriculture Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Increased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV03-966-4 FR] received January 5, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5951. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Fluroxypyr; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-2003-0377; FRL-7340-5] received December 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5952. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Cyprodinil; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-2003-0394; FRL-7337-5] received December 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5953. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Vinclozolin; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerances Technical Correction [OPP-2003-0311; FRL-7337-7] received December 9, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5954. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions Multiple Chemicals [OPP-2003-0402; FRL-7339-8] received January 8, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5955. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the request and availability of funds for the Department of the Treasury's Counterterrorism Fund, pursuant to Public Law 106-554; (H. Doc. No. 108-148); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5956. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a request to make the subsidy budget authority necessary to support a \$30 million Federal credit instrument for World Airways, Inc.; (H. Doc. No. 108-150); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5957. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting in accordance with provisions of the "1997 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from Natural Disasters, and for Overseas Peacekeeping Efforts, Including those in Bosnia" (Public Law 105-18), a request to make available emergency funding for the Department of the Interior's National Park Service; (H. Doc. No. 108-151); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5958. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report